

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) An electric vehicle that is driven with output power of a motor, said electric vehicle comprising:

an accumulator unit that transmits electric power to and from the motor;

an auxiliary machine that is actuated with a supply of electric power from the accumulator unit;

a steering assist structure that is driven with a supply of electric power from the accumulator unit and outputs a steering torque to a steering mechanism;

a voltage measurement module that measures a voltage of the accumulator unit; and

a control module that, when the voltage measured by said voltage measurement module decreases to or below a preset first level, stops the supplies of electric power from the accumulator unit to the auxiliary machine and to the motor.

2. (Original) An electric vehicle in accordance with claim 1, wherein the preset first level is higher than a minimum drive voltage required for proper operation of the steering assist structure.

3. (Original) An electric vehicle in accordance with claim 1, wherein said control module, in response to a decrease in measured voltage to or below the preset first level, stops the supply of electric power to the auxiliary machine prior to the stop of the supply of electric power to the motor.

4. (Original) An electric vehicle in accordance with claim 3, wherein said control module stops the supply of electric power to the auxiliary machine in response to the decrease in measured voltage to or below the preset first level, and stops the supply of electric power to the motor in response to a further decrease in measured voltage to or below a preset second level that is lower than the preset first level.

5. (Original) An electric vehicle in accordance with claim 1, wherein said control module stops the supply of electric power from the accumulator unit to the steering assist structure when the measured voltage decreases to a preset third level that is lower than the preset first level.

6. (Original) An electric vehicle in accordance with claim 5, wherein said control module, in response to the decrease in measured voltage to the preset third level, gradually decreases the steering torque output from the steering assist structure to the steering mechanism, prior to the stop of the supply of electric power to the steering assist structure.

7. (Original) An electric vehicle in accordance with claim 6, wherein said control module implements the gradual decrease in steering torque in a predetermined time period, prior to the stop of the supply of electric power to the steering assist structure.

8. (Currently Amended) An electric vehicle in accordance with ~~any one of claims 1 through 7~~ claim 1, wherein the auxiliary machine is an air conditioner.

9. (Currently Amended) An electric vehicle in accordance with ~~any one of claims 1 through 7~~ claim 1, said electric vehicle further comprising:

an internal combustion engine; and

an electric power-mechanical power input output structure that is connected to an output shaft of the internal combustion engine and to a drive shaft linked with an axle of said electric vehicle and outputs at least part of output power of the internal combustion engine to the drive shaft through input and output of electric power and mechanical power,

wherein the motor is connected with the drive shaft to input and output power from and to the drive shaft.

10. (Original) An electric vehicle in accordance with claim 9, wherein,

the electric power-mechanical power input output structure comprises: a three shaft-type power input output mechanism that is linked to three shafts, that is, the output shaft of the internal combustion engine, the drive shaft, and a third rotating shaft, and automatically determines power input from and output to a residual one shaft based on powers input from and output to any two shafts among the three shafts; and a generator that inputs and outputs power from and to the third rotating shaft, and

said control module stops a supply of electric power to the generator accompanied with the stop of the supply of electric power to the motor.

11. (Original) A control method of an electric vehicle that is driven with output power of a motor, said electric vehicle comprising: the motor; an accumulator unit that transmits electric power to and from the motor; an auxiliary machine that is actuated with a supply of electric power from the accumulator unit; and a steering assist structure that is driven with a supply of electric power from the accumulator unit and outputs a steering torque to a steering mechanism,

said control method comprising the steps of:

(a) measuring a voltage of the accumulator unit; and

(b) when the voltage of the accumulator unit measured in said step (a) decreases to or below a preset first level, stopping the supplies of electric power from the accumulator unit to the auxiliary machine and to the motor.

12. (Original) A control method of an electric vehicle in accordance with claim 11, wherein said step (b), in response to a decrease in measured voltage to or below the preset first level, stops the supply of electric power to the auxiliary machine prior to the stop of the supply of electric power to the motor.

13. (Original) A control method of an electric vehicle in accordance with claim 12, wherein said step (b) stops the supply of electric power to the auxiliary machine in response to the decrease in measured voltage to or below the preset first level, and stops the supply of electric power to the motor in response to a further decrease in measured voltage to or below a preset second level that is lower than the preset first level.

14. (Original) A control method of an electric vehicle in accordance with claim 11, said control method further comprising the step of:
in response to the decrease in measured voltage to the preset third level that is lower than the present first level, gradually decreasing the steering torque output from the steering assist structure to the steering mechanism, prior to the stop of the supply of electric power to the steering assist structure.